

Ambitious love

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius
[Alto]

Am - bi - ti - ous love hath forced me to a - spire,

Medius
[Tenor]

Am - bi - ti - ous love hath forced me to a - spire,

Contratenor
[Tenor]

Am - bi - ti - ous love hath forced me to a - spire,

Tenor
[Bass]

Am - bi - ti - ous love hath forced me to a - spire,

Bassus
[Bass]

Am - bi - ti - ous love hath forced me to a - spire, a - spire

the beau - ties rare which do a - dorn thy face: Thy

the beau - ties rare which do a - dorn thy face: Thy mo - dest life

the beau - ties rare which do a - dorn thy face: Thy mo -

the beau - ties rare which do a - dorn thy face: Thy mo - dest life yet

the beau - ties rare which do a - dorn thy face: Thy

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mo - dest life yet bri - dles my de - sire,

yet bri - dles my de - sire, de - sire, whose se - vere

-dest life yet bri - dles my de - sire, whose se - vere

bri - dles my de - sire, whose se - vere law doth

mo - dest life yet bri - dles my de - sire, whose se - vere

whose se - vere law doth pro - mise me no grace.

law doth pro - mise me no grace, no grace, no grace.

— law, whose se - vere law doth pro - mise me no grace.

pro - mise me no — grace, doth pro - mise me — no — grace.

law, doth pro - mise me no grace, no grace.

But what? may love live un - der a - ny — law? No, no: his

But what? may love live un - der a - ny law? No, no: his

But what? may love live un - der a - ny law? No, no: his

But what? may love live un - der a - ny law? No, no: his

But what? may love live un - der a - ny — law? No, no: his

power ex - ceed - eth man's con - ceit: Of

power ex - ceed - eth man's con - ceit: Of which the Gods

power ex - ceed - eth — man's con - ceit: Of which

power ex - ceed - eth man's con - ceit: Of which the Gods them -

power ex - ceed - eth man's con - ceit: Of

which the Gods them-selves do stand in awe,
 them - selves do stand in awe, in awe, for on his
 the Gods them-selves do stand in awe, for on his
 -selves do stand in awe, for on his frown, a
 which the Gods them-selves do stand in awe, for on his

for on his frown, a thou - sand tor - ments wait.
 frown, a thou-sand tor - ments wait, tor - ments wait.
 frown, for on his frown a thou-sand tor - ments wait.
 thou-sand tor - ments wait, a thou - sand tor - ments wait.
 frown, a thou - sand tor - ments wait, tor - ments wait.

Pro - ceed then in this de - spe-rate en - ter - prise, with good ad - vice, and
 Pro - ceed then in this de - spe-rate en - ter-prise, with good ad - vice, and
 Pro - ceed then in this de - spe - rate en-ter - prise, with good ad - vice, ad - vice,
 Pro - ceed then in this de - spe-rate en - ter-prise, with good ad - vice, and

fol-low love thy guide, that leads thee to thy wish-ed Pa-ra-dise, to—

fol-low, and fol-low love thy guide, that leads thee to thy wish-ed Pa-ra-

and fol-low love thy— guide, and fol-low love thy guide, that leads

and fol-low love thy guide, that leads thee to, that leads thee to thy

fol-low love thy guide, that leads thee to thy wish-ed Pa-ra-dise, that leads thee

— thy wish-ed Pa-ra-dise, Pa-ra-dise. Thy climb-ing

-dise, to thy wish-ed Pa-ra-dise, Pa-ra-dise. Thy climb-ing

thee to thy wish-ed Pa-ra-dise, Pa-ra-dise. Thy climb-ing

wish-ed Pa-ra-dise, to— thy wish-ed Pa-ra-dise. Thy climb-ing

to thy wish-ed Pa-ra-dise, Pa-ra-dise. Thy climb-ing

thoughts, this com-fort take— with-al, that if it be, thy fouldis-grace to slide,

thoughts, this com-fort take— with-al, that if it be, if it be thy foul dis-grace to

thoughts, this com-fort take with-al, that if it be, thy foul dis-grace to—

thoughts this com-fort take with-al, that if it be, it be thy foul dis-grace to slide,

thoughts this com-fort take with-al, that if it be, thy fouldis-grace to slide, thy

thy brave at - tempt, shall yet ex - cuse thy fall, thy brave at -

slide, thy brave at - tempt shall yet ex - cuse thy fall, thy brave

slide, thy foul dis - grace to slide, thy brave at - tempt, shall yet ex - cuse thy -

thy brave at - tempt, thy brave at - tempt shall yet ex - cuse thy fall, thy -

brave at - tempt, shall yet ex - cuse thy fall, thy brave at - tempt shall yet ex - cuse thy fall,

-tempt shall yet ex - cuse thy fall, shall yet ex - cuse thy fall.

at - tempt shall yet ex - cuse thy fall, shall yet ex - cuse thy fall.

fall, thy fall, shall yet ex - cuse thy fall.

— brave at - tempt shall yet ex - cuse thy fall, thy fall.

thy brave at - tempt shall yet ex - cuse thy fall.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.18.

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